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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): ARAI, et al
Serial No.: (not yet assigned)
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 APPARATUS

REAFFIRMATION OF CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

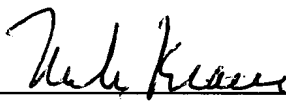
December 15, 2003

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application Nos. 02-177406, filed in Japan on July 6, 1990, 02-190655, filed in Japan on July 20, 1990, and 02-250199, filed in Japan on September 21, 1990.

The certified copies of the above-referred to Japanese Patent Applications were filed in prior application Serial No. 07/727,059, filed July 8, 1991.

Respectfully submitted,



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